PRP DATA EXTRACTION FORM
LOWER PASSAIC RIVER STUDY AREA

THE OKONITE COMPANY

CURRENT MAILING ADDRESS/CONTACT INFO:

The Okonite Company, Incorporated
Victor A. Viggiano, CEO
102 Hilltop Road
Ramsey, New Jersey 07446 (BEP000038)

FACILITY ADDRESS:

The Okonite Company
Wire & Cable Division
220 Passaic Street
Passaic, New Jersey (BEP000007, BEP000018)

The Okonite Company
1940 Canal Street
Passaic, New Jersey 07055 (BEP000016, BEP000024)

Okonite Company
Block 1076 – Lots #1,#8, & #12
Canal and Jefferson Streets
Passaic City, New Jersey (BEP000066)

FINANCIAL VIABILITY (annual revenue, # of employees):

The Okonite Company ("Okonite") was founded in 1878 in Passaic, New Jersey. (BEP000059) It was subsequently incorporated on February 4, 1884, in the State of New York as The Okonite Company. (BEP000162)

Okonite was noted in the New Jersey Industrial Directories for 1960-1961, 1965 and 1970 as being a subsidiary of Kennecott Copper Corporation, specifically Kennecott Wire & Cable Division located in Phillipsdale, Rhode Island. (BEP000018, BEP000020, BEP000022)

In 1976, all of the company's outstanding common stock was acquired by the The Okonite Company Employees' Stock Ownership Trust ("ESOT"). (BEP000054)

Limited financial information is available on the company. Okonite is presently privately-owned by the ESOT. (BEP000054) Victor A. Viggiano serves as Chairman of the Board, and A. C. Coppola serves as President of the company. (BEP000038, BEP000053) Okonite is reported to have a workforce of 1,000 employees located in various sales offices, six manufacturing plants and six service centers throughout the United States. (BEP000038, BEP000059)

DATES OF OPERATION (include info. on predecessors/successors if known):

Okonite was reportedly started in Passaic in 1878 by John Haven Cheever as the New York Insulated Wire and Vulcanite Company. (BEP000161, BEP000166) The company was located at the same property of another Cheever concern, New York Belting and Packing Company, which later became the United States Rubber Company. (BEP000161) Environmental investigations and remedial activities have been performed at the facility from 1989 to the present. (BEP000120)

DESCRIPTION OF FACILITY OPERATIONS (list CERCLA hazardous substances used, manufactured or present):

A review of historical New Jersey Industrial Directory entries, regulatory documents and financial information records reveals that the Passaic facility manufactured insulated electrical wires and cables, as well as electrical and splicing tapes, from circa 1940/1941 to the present. (BEP000012, BEP000014, BEP000016, BEP000018, BEP000020, BEP000022, BEP000024, BEP000026, BEP000055)

The Okonite facility is located off Jefferson and Canal Streets in Passaic, New Jersey. Canal Street, the former canal bed for a portion of the Dundee Canal, and railroad right-of-ways are located along the eastern border of the facility. Passaic Street is located along the southern border of the site. Weasel Brook and a waterway designated as "Tail Race" flow along the western border of the facility. Weasel Brook and Jefferson Street are located along the north-northwestern border of the generally triangle-shaped property. (BEP000001-5)

The Dundee Canal is indicated as flowing along the entire eastern border of the facility in Sanborn Fire Insurance maps dated 1935 and 1951. Of note, the 1935 and 1951 Sanborn maps depict various unrelated commercial and industrial operations, including a filling station and the William Wilheim Silk Printing Company, as not associated with the Okonite site and being located along a stretch of land to the east of the Dundee Canal bed. (BEP000001-2) However, Sanborn maps for 1979, 1991 and 1995, show the Okonite site as having been included in the parcel of land along the eastern side of the former canal bed. (BEP000003-5)

Prior to 1983, the facility utilized two tanks (1,500 gallons and 2,500 gallons) to store waste degreasing solvents and waste drawing oils. (BEP000069) As of 1985, the facility was conducting a distillation operation for trichloroethylene recovery purposes after the two tanks were decommissioned in 1983. (BEP000069)

Site Soil Contamination:

NJDEP documentation from 1999 notes that soils located east of the facility's "Reel Building" were found to be visibly contaminated with total petroleum hydrocarbons ("TPH") and required excavation. Post-excavation samples from this area demonstrated concentration levels to 1,600 ppm TPH. (BEP000075) The soil contamination was reported to have been caused by the disposal of motor oils and motor oil filters. (BEP000075) The 1999 documentation notes that TPH contamination at levels up to 1,220 ppm were detected in post-excavation soil samples from a facility underground storage tank pit. (BEP000076)

Okonite reported in 2001 that site soil samples collected at 3.5- to 4.0-feet below grade were found to be contaminated with chloroform (18 ppm) and carbon tetrachloride (17 ppm). (BEP000086)

Site Sediment Contamination:

In 1992, thirteen (13) sediment samples were collected from Weasel Brook as part of Okonite's remedial investigation activities. Copper, lead, zinc and mercury were detected in the sediment samples. (BEP000074)

Okonite reported that sediment sampling of Weasel Brook in 2004 identified base neutral compounds at levels ranging from 800 ppb to 25,480 ppb. (BEP000122)

Okonite further reported in 2004 that site data served to identify: (1) soil in site drainage structures contaminated with lead at levels up to 490 ppm; and, (2) soil in the Research Building Drainage Way contaminated with PAHs. (BEP000124)

Okonite also reported in 2004 that soil samples collected from the facility's Research Building Drainage Way identified (at least in part) fly ash cinder material contaminated with:

- Chrysene
- Benzo(b)fluoranthene
- Benzo(k)fluoranthene
- Benzo(a)pyrene

(BEP000122)

Site Groundwater Contamination:

The 1999 documentation noted that sampling of site groundwater detected concentrations of chlorobenzene and benzene. (BEP000078) Further, investigation of an open-bottom and open-sided pit in the main plant buildings served to identify groundwater contamination including elevated levels of:

- 1,1-Dichloroethane
- 1,1-Dichloroethene
- 1,1,1-Trichloroethane
- Trichloroethene
- Chloroform

(BEP000079)

Okonite reported in 2001 that the following contaminants were detected in site groundwater during 1990-1991 sampling activities, and were found to exceed groundwater standards:

- Carbon tetrachloride
- Chloroethane
- Chloroform
- DCA
- DCE
- TCA
- TCE
- Vinyl chloride

(BEP000087-88)

Okonite also reported in 2004 that site groundwater was found to be contaminated with lead. (BEP000124)

PERMITS (provide dates)**:**

NPDES:

NJPDES Permit # NJ0002615.

Okonite discharged facility wastewater to Weasel Brook via outfall pipes. (BEP000127)

PVSC (pretreatment):

Information not available at this time.

NEXUS TO LOWER PASSAIC RIVER STUDY AREA (describe in detail; cite to supporting documentation; date or time period of disposal; list CERCLA hazardous substances; and volume, if known):

Direct (e.g. pipe, outfall, spill):

1973-1974	PVSC reported on the discharge of "polluting" boiler blowdown from the Okonite facility. (BEP00007) PVSC did not indicate if the facility boiler blowdown outlet was discharged to the river or sewer. The company was directed to halt the pollution and discharge the boiler blowdown to the sanitary sewer. PVSC documentation indicates the polluting discharge continued from November 1974 through August 1974. (BEP00007, BEP00009)
1992	As noted above, sediment samples collected from Weasel Brook in July 1992 identified copper, lead, zinc and mercury contamination. (BEP000074) The samples were collected in the area of facility outfall pipes to Weasel Brook, in the area of the stream bank, in sediments beneath three of the outfall pipes and at a location downstream of the outfall pipes. (BEP000127)

Sanitary Sewer (provide name and location of CSO; details regarding CSO overflows and dates:

Information not available at this time.

Storm Sewer:

Information not available at this time.

Runoff:

Information not available at this time.

Groundwater:

In 1999, NJDEP reported that the nearest downgradient receptor of site groundwater is Weasel Brook, and that "the most recent (1999) ground water results indicate that groundwater is discharging to Weasel Brook at concentrations exceeding the instream criteria for chlorobenzene and benzene." (BEP000078) Weasel Brook is a tributary to the Passaic River. (KLL004546, KLL004592-94)

POTENTIAL NEXUS TO LOWER PASSAIC RIVER STUDY AREA (describe in detail; cite to supporting documentation; list CERCLA hazardous substances; and volume, if known):

Direct (e.g. pipe, outfall, spill):

See above discussion for documented direct discharges from facility operations to Weasel Brook.

Sanitary Sewer (provide name and location of CSO; details regarding CSO overflows and dates):

Information not available at this time.

Storm Sewer (provide name and location of CSO; details regarding CSO overflows and dates):

Information not available at this time.

Runoff:

The potential exists for run-off of spills, leaks and other discharge events from facility operations and hazardous material storage.

1985 - USEPA noted that the facility conducted hazardous waste activities that were classified as having "TSD (Treatment, Storage or Disposal) facility status." (BEP000066)

NJDEP documentation from 1999 notes that post-excavation soils located east of the facility's Reel Building were found to be contaminated with TPH at concentration levels to 1,600 ppm. (BEP000075) The source of the soil contamination was reported to be facility disposal of motor oils and motor oil filters. (BEP000075) The company also reported TPH contamination at levels up to 1,220 ppm were detected in post-excavation soil samples from a facility underground storage tank pit. (BEP000076)

Groundwater:

See above discussion for documented direct discharges from facility operations to site groundwater.